THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) The Aircraft Evaluation Committee of Indian Airlines submitted its techno-economic evaluation report to the Board Sub-Committee. The report was deliberated upon by the Board Sub-Committee. Based on the recommendations of Board Sub-Committee, the Board of Directors of Indian Airlines in its meeting held on 27.3.2002 have approved a proposal for acquisition of 43 aircraft *i.e.* 19A-319, 4 A-320 and 20 A-321 aircraft installed with CFM-56 engines at a net project cost of Rs. 10,089 crores. The Project Report submitted by Indian Airlines is under active consideration of the Government.

Daily flights on Delhi-Guwahati route

603. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will ensure introduction of a daily morning and evening flight to and from Guwahati to connect national capital with the North-East Region legitimately instead of keeping almost all flights at a time after 10 a.m. and before 4 p.m.; and

(b) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Due to aircraft and scheduling constraints and commitment on its routes network, it is presently not feasible for Indian Airlines to provide more services between Delhi and Guwahati.

Induction of mini-planes

604. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines propose to induct mini-planes; and

(b) if so, the number to be added and how the investment amount would be arranged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The proposal of Indian Airlines for purchase of six 50 seater ATR 42-500 aircraft was considered by the